**PATENT** 

## REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the present application. In the above amendments, claims 1, 7, and 13 have been amended, claims 2, 3, 11 and 16-18 have been cancelled without prejudice. Applicant respectfully responds to this Office Action.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of cancelled claim 3, claim 7 to include the limitation of cancelled claim 11, and claim 15 to include the limitation of cancelled claim 16.

As such all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 3, 2005

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